



LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 383
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1411 • FAX (213) 620-0836

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SHEILA KUEHL

DON KNABE

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

June 21, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#9

June 21, 2016

Lori Glasgow
LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ALLOCATION OF REWARD FUNDS RELATING TO JOHN WAYNE WHITMORE (ALL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)

SUBJECT

Board approval is being requested for the distribution of reward funds in the amount of \$10,000 to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve the recommendation of the Reward Committee to distribute reward funds in the amount of \$10,000 to be paid from the Board's discretionary funds, to an individual who provided information to law enforcement that led to the apprehension and conviction of Tracy Gomez, who beat John Wayne Whitmore, who succumbed to his injuries.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On June 13, 2014, at approximately 1:18 p.m., John Wayne Whitmore was beaten while standing on a Blue Line platform waiting for a train, located in the 10000 block of Willowbrook Avenue, between Imperial Highway and Wilmington Avenue, and on June 20, 2014 he succumbed to his injuries. On July 22, 2014, the Board approved a reward for \$10,000 for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of the person(s) responsible for the murder of John Wayne Whitmore.

During the investigation, the claimant contacted the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and provided important information regarding suspect Tracy Gomez's account of the incident involving victim, John Wayne Whitmore. Two suspects were subsequently arrested and the case was filed at the Compton Superior Court. Investigators believe the claimant played a major part in the apprehension of the suspects and provided crucial information that was immediately investigated and verified through undisclosed investigation operations. The claimant cooperated with investigators throughout this case.

On September 8, 2015, Tracy Gomez was convicted of voluntary manslaughter pursuant to Penal Code section 192(a) in the Compton Superior Court. On March 28, 2016, she was sentenced to 17 years in State prison. The second suspect was acquitted by the jury.

A panel of individuals representing the Sheriff, Chief Executive Office, County Counsel and the Executive Officer of the Board reviewed the claim filed for the reward funds. The panel is recommending the \$10,000 reward be awarded to the claimant who provided information to law enforcement. In accordance with the provision of the Los Angeles Code, Title 4 – Revenue and Finance, the Board must now consider the claim and make a final determination for distribution of the reward funds.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the above recommendation supports the County Strategic Goal of Service Excellence. Publication in local newspapers and posting of reward notices on the County website may encourage persons to provide information to law enforcement which could lead to the apprehension and/or conviction of individuals who commit crimes, thereby improving the quality of life for residents of Los Angeles County by removing such individuals from the community.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Board of Supervisors established a \$10,000 reward fund. Pursuant to provisions in the County Code, the reward is to be paid from the Board of Supervisors' discretionary funds in equal shares of \$2,000 from each Supervisor's budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors adopted an amendment to the County Code establishing procedures for offering case rewards for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of persons guilty of certain criminal acts. Your Board, from time to time, has offered such rewards to encourage citizens to come forward and assist law enforcement with their investigations.

The action recommended is in compliance with the County Code, Title 4 – Revenue and Finance relating to rewards; and specifically Section 4.50.010B which states "conviction of the person or persons responsible for the crime shall be required for payment of a reward unless the Board of Supervisors makes a finding of impossibility of Conviction due to the death or incapacity of such person or persons."

The Notice of Reward offered was posted on the Board of Supervisors' website and published in the Press Telegram.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of this recommendation does not impact other current County services or projects.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Glasgow". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

LORI GLASGOW

Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

LG:mdc

c: Sheriff
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller